

REMARKS

The Office Action contends that restriction between the following groups of claims is required:

- I. Claims 27 to 34
- II. Claims 35 to 50.

It is noted that the Office Action does address claims 51 and 52. It is respectfully submitted that claims 51 and 52 are properly grouped with claims 27 to 34. Moreover, it is respectfully submitted that claims 51 and 52 effectively link claims 27 to 34 and 35 to 50. As such, reconsideration and withdrawal of the restriction requirement is respectfully requested.

Notwithstanding the foregoing traverse, and to the extent that the present restriction requirement might be maintained, claims 27 to 34 are elected for further prosecution. To the extent that claims 51 and 52 are properly grouped with claims 27 to 34, these claims are also elected for further prosecution.

All issues raised by the Examiner having been addressed, an early and favorable action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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